MARVEL comics
DOOM 2041
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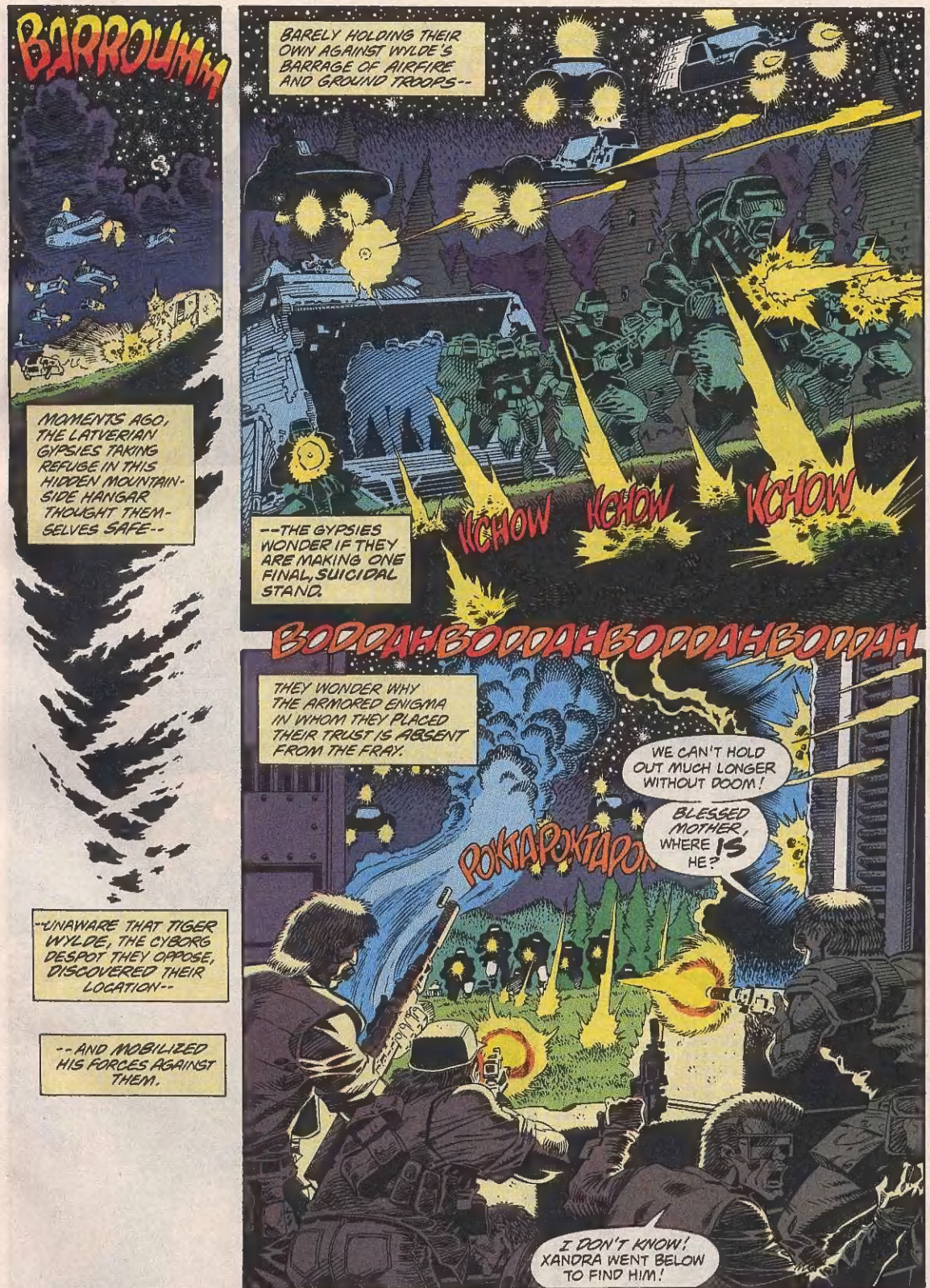
GROVEL BEFORE YOUR NEW KING-- TIGER WYLDE THE FIRST!
2099


BARROUMM
BARELY HOLDING THEIR OWN AGAINST WYLDE'S BARRAGE OF AIRFIRE AND GROUND TROOPS--
MOMENTS AGO, THE LATVERIAN GYPSIES TAKING REFUGE IN THIS HIDDEN MOUNTAIN-SIDE HANGAR THOUGHT THEM-SELVES SAFE--
--THE GYPSIES WONDER IF THEY ARE MAKING ONE FINAL, SUICIDAL STAND.
KCHOW KCHOW KCHOW
BODDAHBODDAHBODDAHBODDAH
THEY WONDER WHY THE ARMORED ENIGMA IN WHOM THEY PLACED THEIR TRUST IS ABSENT FROM THE FRAY.
WE CAN'T HOLD OUT MUCH LONGER WITHOUT DOOM!
BLESSED MOTHER, WHERE IS HE?
POKTAPOKTAPOK
--UNAWARE THAT TIGER WYLDE, THE CYBORG DESPOT THEY OPPOSE, DISCOVERED THEIR LOCATION--
--AND MOBILIZED HIS FORCES AGAINST THEM.
I DON'T KNOW! XANDRA WENT BELOW TO FIND HIM!

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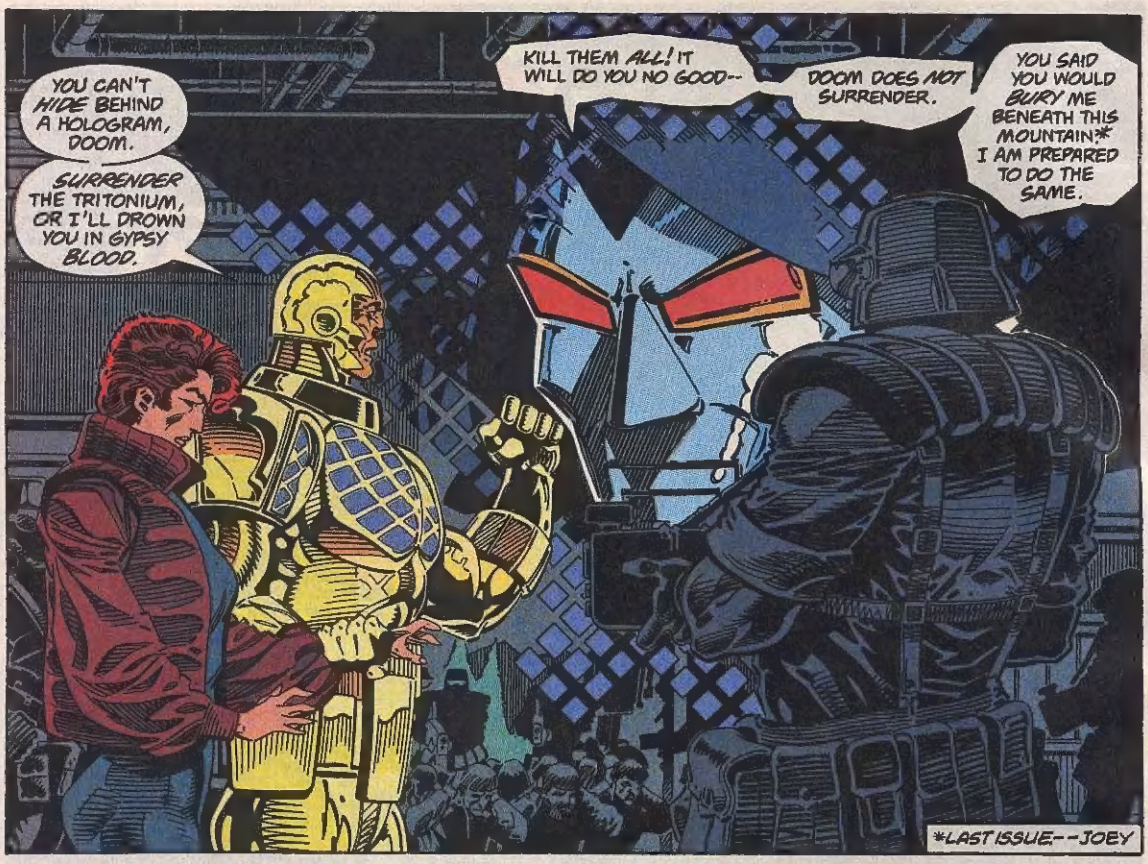
HaCsA Scan By GOTHMAN

CHA-THWOOOMFF
UNGGHFF!!
CONCUSSION GREN--AHHHHH!
WE'VE LOST, ZEFIRO. LAY DOWN YOUR WEAPONS BEFORE ANYONE ELSE IS HURT--
FORTUNE? YOU'RE HERE? CAN'T SEE WITH ALL THE SMOKE. SITUATION'S BAD, REAL BAD--
I KNOW! WYLDE CAUGHT ME IN THE CITY--
GODDESS, WIRE! IS HE--
STUNNED. KID CAN'T EVEN SHOOT STRAIGHT. HE SHOULDN'T'VE BEEN UP HERE.
LOOK WHAT YOUR BETRAYAL HAS WROUGHT, FORTUNE.
YOU WERE ILL ADVISED TO SIDE WITH THE UPSTART DOOM AGAINST ME.
I DID NOT CONQUER THIS COUNTRY BY LETTING PEASANTS STAND IN MY WAY.
NOW, GIVE ME DOOM AND THE TRITONIUM* HE STOLE--
--OR WATCH YOUR BELOVED TRIBE DIE ONE BY ONE BEFORE YOUR EYES.
NO-- PLEASE--
*A rare energy-generating ore, taken by Doom in issue #2.--Joey
YOU WON'T GET THE TRITONIUM FROM FORTUNE, TIGER WYLDE--

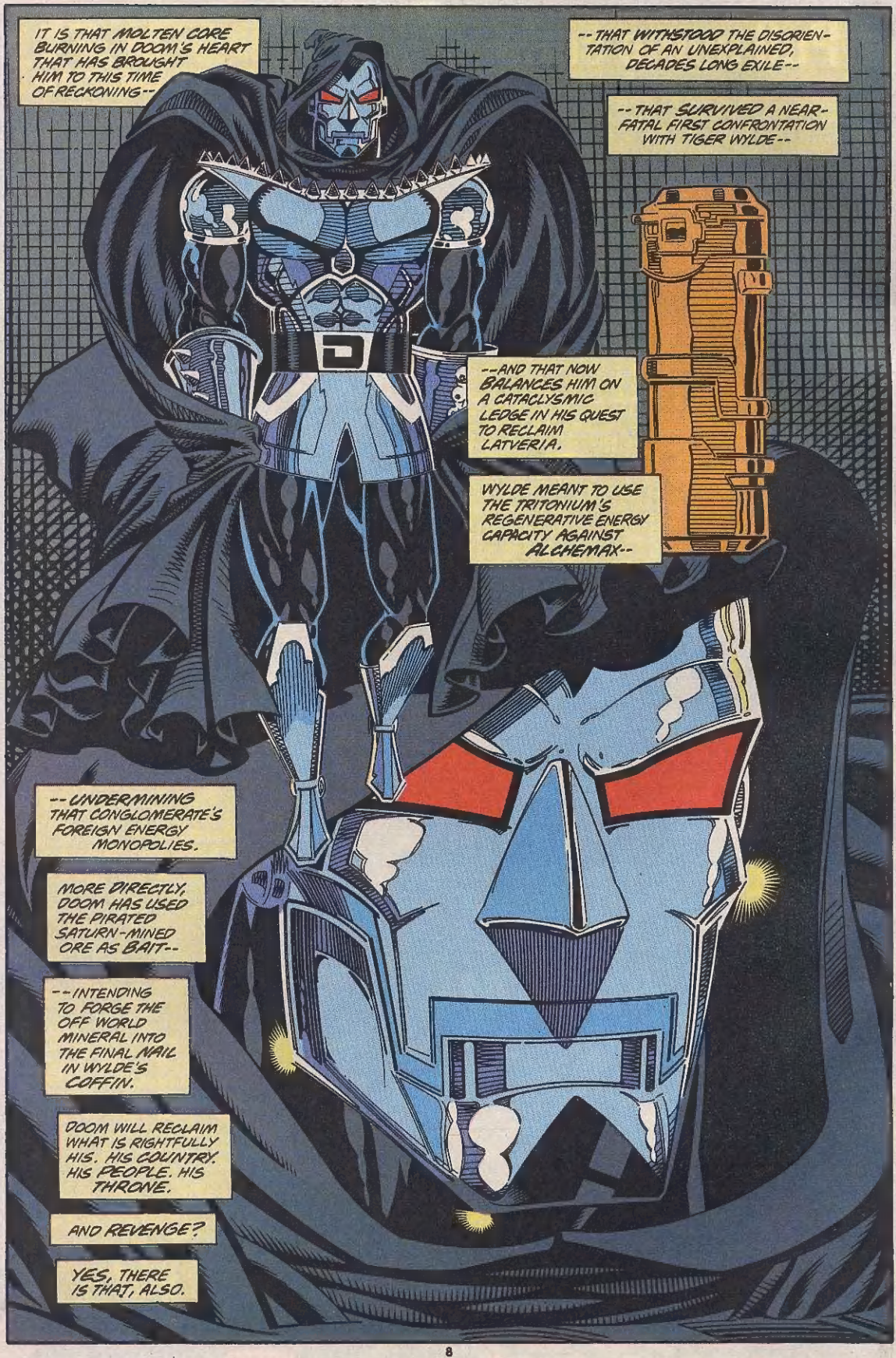
STAN LEE PRESENTS:
DOOM 2099
FIRE ANSWERS FIRE
YOU MUST FACE ME FIRST.
JOHN FRANCIS MOORE writer • PAT BRODERICK penciler • JOHN BEATTY inker • JOHN COSTANZA letterer • CHRISTIE SCHEELE colorist • JOEY CAVALIERI editor • TOM DE FALCO editor in chief


YOU CAN'T HIDE BEHIND A HOLOGRAM, DOOM.
SURRENDER THE TRITONIUM, OR I'LL DROWN YOU IN GYPSY BLOOD.
KILL THEM ALL! IT WILL DO YOU NO GOOD--
DOOM DOES NOT SURRENDER.
YOU SAID YOU WOULD BURY ME BENEATH THIS MOUNTAIN* I AM PREPARED TO DO THE SAME.
*LAST ISSUE--JOEY

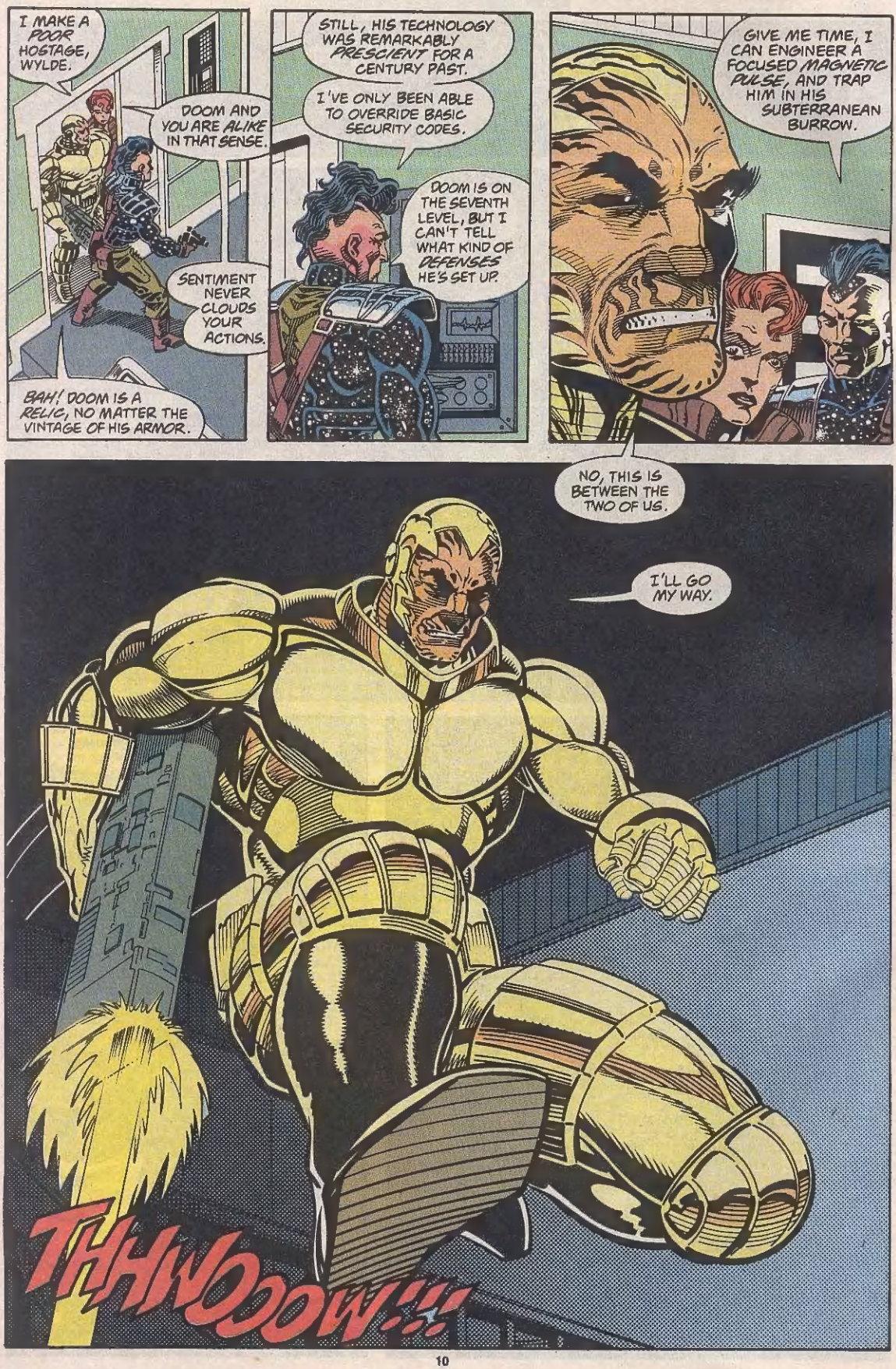
I HAVE PRIMED THE TRITONIUM TO DETONATE UNLESS YOU FACE ME ALONE.
THE TWO OF US? VERY WELL.
I AWAIT YOU BELOW.

LET DOOM BLOW HIMSELF UP. TRITONIUM REGENERATES.
WE CAN RETRIEVE IT FROM HIS SCATTERED REMAINS.
NO, ZONE. THIS TIN PLATED ANACHRONISM HAS CAUSED ME GREAT TROUBLE.
I WILL TAKE PLEASURE IN SENDING HIM BACK TO THE GRAVE.

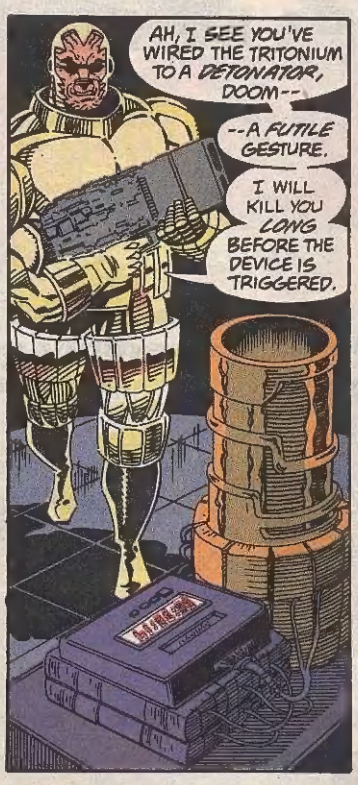
BENEATH THE HANGAR, IN SUBBASEMENT SEVEN--
KILL THEM ALL?!?
IS THAT ALL WE ARE TO YOU-- CANNON FODDER?
PUT YOUR GUN DOWN, XANDRA. LEARN NOT TO WEAR YOUR EMOTIONS SO OPENLY.
THIS IS A WAR OF STRATEGY. I CANNOT ALLOW WYLDE TO USE THE TRIBE AGAINST ME.
FORTUNE UNDERSTANDS, AND SO SHOULD YOU.
I DON'T CARE! YOU CAN'T SACRIFICE THEM LIKE PAWNS IN SOME CHESS GAME!
I'M GOING UP THERE--
--TO BE KILLED? THINK, GIRL, YOU CAN'T OVERPOWER WYLDE'S TROOPS.
THEN WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO?
TAKE VOX AND KEEP HIM SAFE. THE CHILD'S MORE POWERFUL THAN ANY KNOW, BUT HE'S NO WARRIOR.
THE VENTILATION SHAFTS WILL LEAD YOU OUT OF THE MOUNTAIN.
THEN WAIT. THIS CONFLICT ENDS SOON.
YOU'RE RIGHT. FOR NOW. BUT IF FORTUNE OR WIRE DIE BECAUSE OF YOU--
-- I'LL RETURN AND SHUT YOU DOWN.
BENEATH HIS ARMORED VISAGE, DOOM ALLOWS HIMSELF HALF A SMILE.
FIRE DRIVES XANDRA, AS IT DOES HIM--


IT IS THAT MOLTEN CORE BURNING IN DOOM'S HEART THAT HAS BROUGHT HIM TO THIS TIME OF RECKONING--
--THAT WITHSTOOD THE DISORIENTATION OF AN UNEXPLAINED, DECADES LONG EXILE--
--THAT SURVIVED A NEAR-FATAL FIRST CONFRONTATION WITH TIGER WYLDE--
--AND THAT NOW BALANCES HIM ON A CATACLYSMIC LEDGE IN HIS QUEST TO RECLAIM LATVERIA.
WYLDE MEANT TO USE THE TRITONIUM'S REGENERATIVE ENERGY CAPACITY AGAINST ALCHEMAX--
--UNDERMINING THAT CONGLOMERATE'S FOREIGN ENERGY MONOPOLIES.
MORE DIRECTLY, DOOM HAS USED THE PIRATED SATURN-MINED ORE AS BAIT--
--INTENDING TO FORGE THE OFF WORLD MINERAL INTO THE FINAL NAIL IN WYLDE'S COFFIN.
DOOM WILL RECLAIM WHAT IS RIGHTFULLY HIS. HIS COUNTRY. HIS PEOPLE. HIS THRONE.
AND REVENGE?
YES, THERE IS THAT, ALSO.

ELSEWHERE.
CLANG!
KEEP BEHIND ME, VOX.
AND TRY TO STAY LOW. YOU DON'T WANT TO BE A FLOATING TARGET.
SOMETIMES I WISH YOU WOULD TALK.
I COULD USE A REASSURING WORD OR TWO RIGHT NOW.
WE'RE OUTNUMBERED. FORTUNE'S CAPTURED. DOOM'S UNDERGROUND.
ARGH! I HATE FEELING SO--
--HELPLESS.
WELL DON'T GO AND DO SOMETHING STUPID.
WHAT WOULD YOUR BOY-FRIEND DO WITHOUT YOU?


I MAKE A POOR HOSTAGE, WYLDE.
DOOM AND YOU ARE ALIKE IN THAT SENSE.
SENTIMENT NEVER CLOUDS YOUR ACTIONS.
BAH! DOOM IS A RELIC, NO MATTER THE VINTAGE OF HIS ARMOR.
STILL, HIS TECHNOLOGY WAS REMARKABLY PRESCIENT FOR A CENTURY PAST.
I'VE ONLY BEEN ABLE TO OVERRIDE BASIC SECURITY CODES.
DOOM IS ON THE SEVENTH LEVEL, BUT I CAN'T TELL WHAT KIND OF DEFENSES HE'S SET UP.
GIVE ME TIME, I CAN ENGINEER A FOCUSED MAGNETIC PULSE, AND TRAP HIM IN HIS SUBTERRANEAN BURROW.
NO, THIS IS BETWEEN THE TWO OF US.
I'LL GO MY WAY.
THHWOOOW!!!

WYLDE'S BLAST ATOMIZES REINFORCED STEEL AND CONCRETE INTO DUST AND SMOKE--
--CLEARING A VERTICAL PATH TO SUBBASEMENT SEVEN.
WHOOSH
BWUMFF!


AH, I SEE YOU'VE WIRED THE TRITONIUM TO A DETONATOR, DOOM--
--A FUTILE GESTURE.
I WILL KILL YOU LONG BEFORE THE DEVICE IS TRIGGERED.

INSURANCE, WYLDE--
--TO MAKE CERTAIN OUR SUBTERRANEAN SUMMIT IS UNINTERRUPTED BY YOUR GUARDSMEN.
OR YOUR ZEFIRO.

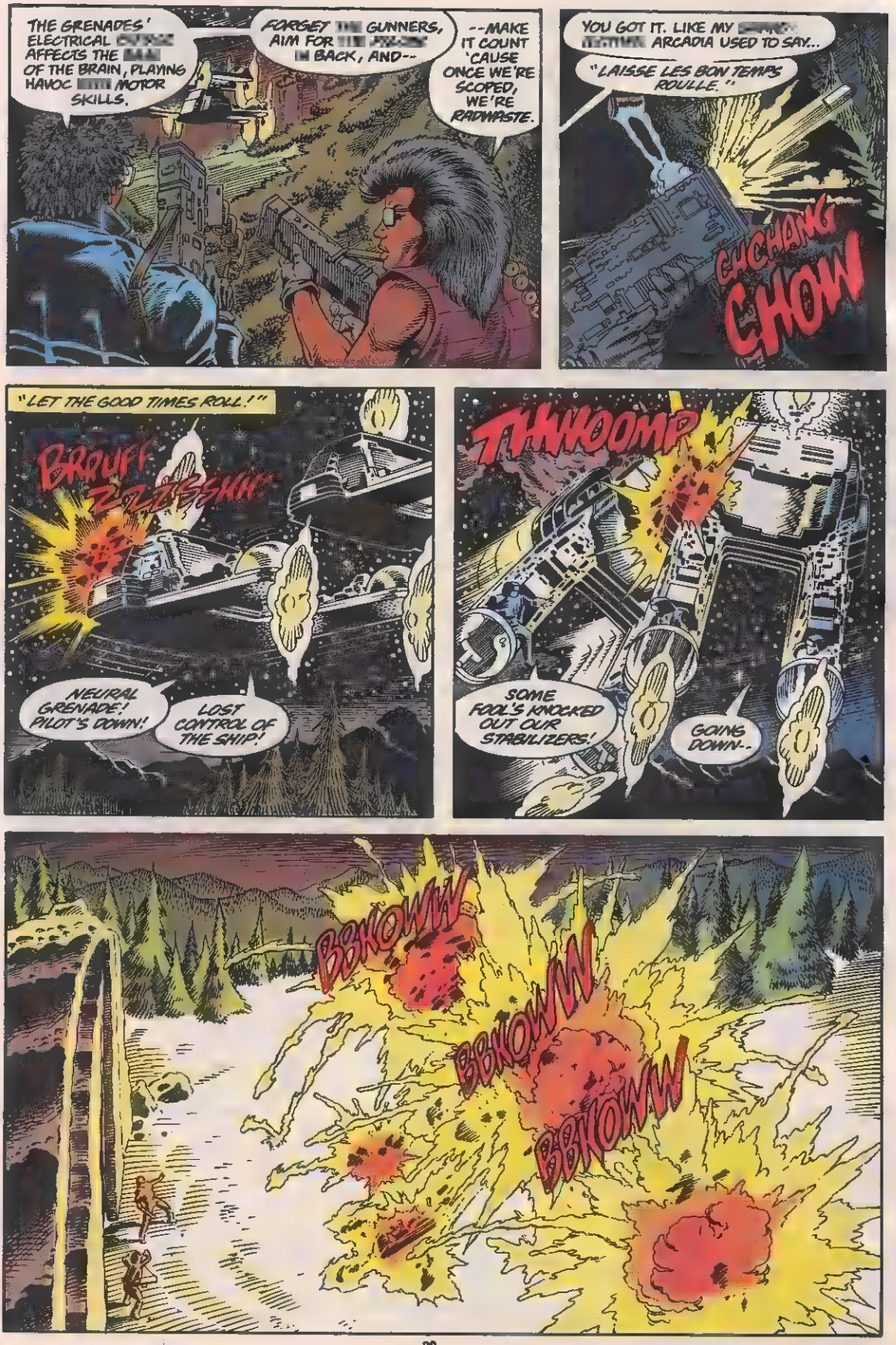
THEY ARE GYPSIES. THEY WILL SURVIVE NO MATTER THE OUTCOME.
AND YOU--THE ONCE AND FUTURE DOOM--WILL NOT BE SO FORTUNATE.

BACK TO THE DUST, OLD MAN!
THHWOOMM
I'LL NOT BE DISPOSED OF THAT EASILY, WYLDE.
CONVENTIONAL WEAPONRY CANNOT PENETRATE MY ADAMANTIUM LANXIDE ARMOR.
I HAVE NOT RETURNED TO MY HOMELAND TO BE DRIVEN AWAY BY SOME MECHANIZED CARPETBAGGER.
CARPETBAGGER? STRONG WORDS FROM ONE WHO BELIEVES HE IS A DECADES-DEAD MONARCH--
--BUT I WILL NOT CONTEST YOUR DELUSION.
IF YOU CHOOSE TO LIVE AS DOOM--
--DIE AS DOOM!!!

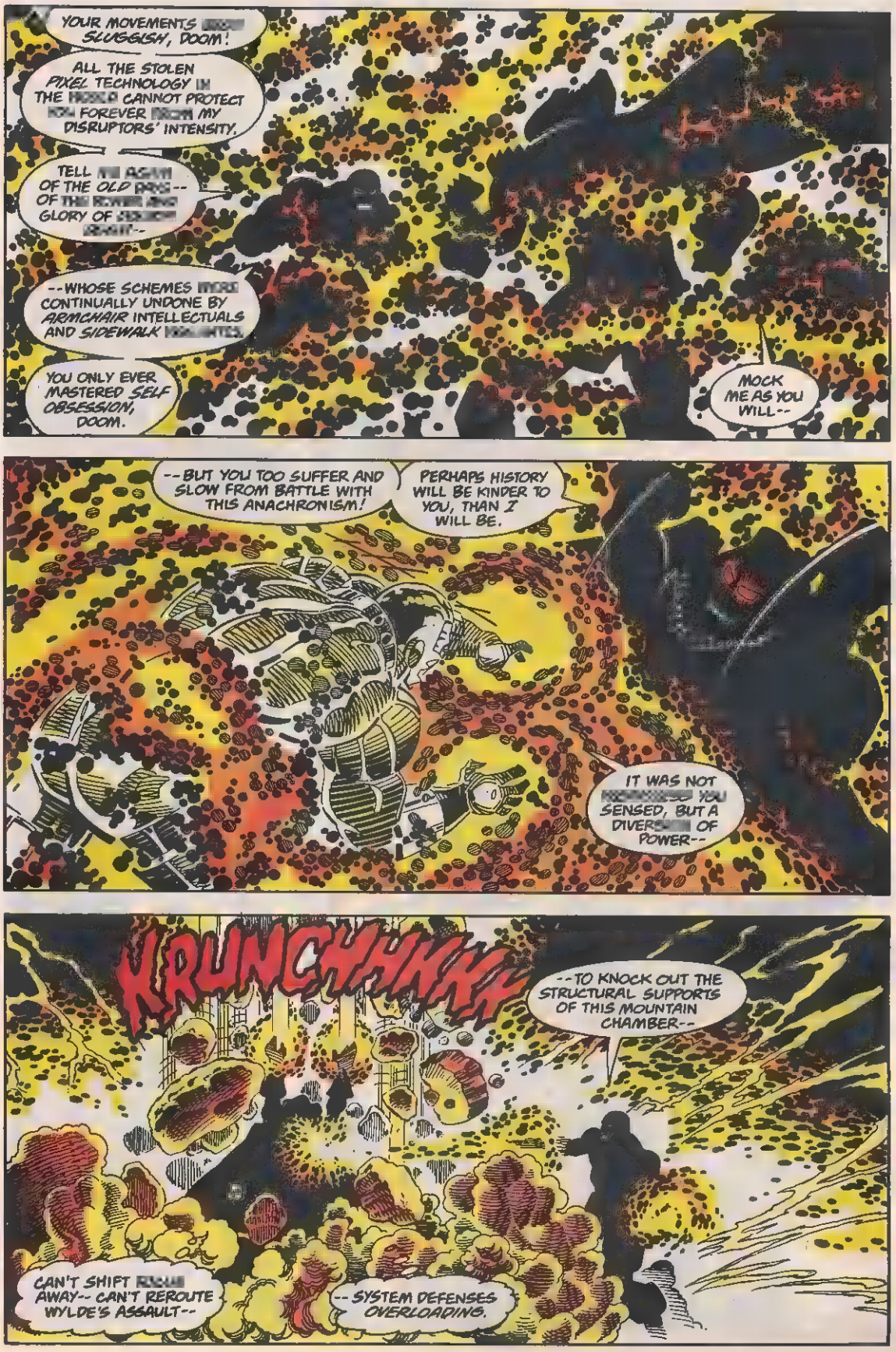
HOW CAN THIS BE? MY DISRUPTION FIELD SHOULD FRY YOUR ARMOR'S CIRCUITRY--
--SHUTTING DOWN YOUR POWER SYSTEMS.
DID YOU THINK YOU COULD SUCCEED TWICE WITH THE SAME ASSAULT?
YOU WERE THE ONE WHO MADE IT PAINFULLY CLEAR I WAS UNPREPARED FOR THIS WORLD. *
NOW, YOU FACE A NEW DOOM--
--ONE WHOSE ARMOR RECHANNELS FREQUENCY DISRUPTION BACK AT THE SENDER.
* Wylde trashed Doom in issue #1. -- JOEY

UNDERSTAND, DOOM, I FOUGHT MY WAY OUT OF CORPORATE SERVITUDE--
--REBUILT MY BODY PIECE BY PIECE--
--AND TOOK THIS COUNTRY FOR MY OWN--
--NOT THROUGH TECHNOLOGY--BUT BY FORCE OF WILL--
LATVERIA IS MINE, DOOM.
MINE!
LATVERIA HAS NEVER BEEN YOURS, WYLDE.
ARGHH!

AT THE SAME TIME, ABOVE THE [illegible]-TERRANEAN CONFLICT...
MNRRGGLL...
QUIET, GIRL. YOU'LL DISTURB OUR [illegible] ARMED NEIGHB--
FWHIPP
OOF!
NICE REFLEXES.
POET?!?
THAT [illegible] STUPID! I COULD'VE KILLED YOU!
NOT A GOOD IDEA SINCE I'M THE ONLY FRIEND YOUR TRIBE HAS ON THE OUTSIDE RIGHT NOW.
I'VE ALWAYS HAD A SOFT SPOT FOR GYPSY REVOLUTIONARIES.
YOU'LL NEED HELP. JUST GIVE ME A MINUTE.
VOX, IF THINGS MELT DOWN, STRAIGHTLINE TO OLD DOROTHEA'S CABIN. SHE'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU.
NO ARGUMENT. GO!
YOU'RE NOT GYPSY BORN, XANDRA. WHY THE LOYALTY?
THE ZEFIRO TOOK [illegible] WHEN I [illegible] STRAY, HUNGRY [illegible] THE STREETS OF ANTIKVA VILAGO.
THEY MAY NOT BE BLOOD, BUT THEY'RE MY FAMILY.
[illegible] WHY [illegible] YOU TAKING DOOM'S SIDE?
IT'S NOT DOOM'S SIDE I'M ON. LONG STORY. I'LL EXPLAIN SOMETIME.
RIGHT NOW, TAKE [illegible] CAREFUL, THEY'LL FRY YOUR BRAIN IF THEY GO OFF.
NEURAL GRENADES? I THOUGHT ONLY STARK/FUJIKAWA ELITE HAD ACCESS [illegible] THESE.
I KNOW WHERE TO SHOP!


THE GRENADES' ELECTRICAL [illegible] AFFECTS THE [illegible] OF THE BRAIN, PLAYING HAVOC [illegible] MOTOR SKILLS.
FORGET [illegible] GUNNERS, AIM FOR [illegible] IN BACK, AND--
--MAKE IT COUNT 'CAUSE ONCE WE'RE SCOPED, WE'RE RADWASTE.
YOU GOT IT. LIKE MY [illegible] ARCADIA USED TO SAY...
"LAISSE LES BON TEMPS ROULLE."
CHONG CHOW
"LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL!"
BROUFF ZZZSSHH
NEURAL GRENADE! PILOT'S DOWN!
LOST CONTROL OF THE SHIP!
THWOOMP
SOME FOOL'S KNOCKED OUT OUR STABILIZERS!
GOING DOWN--
BRKOWW
BRKOWW
BRKOWW

INSIDE THE HANGAR, THE EXPLODING AIR-CRAFT CATCH BOTH GUARDSMEN AND GYPSY BY SURPRISE.
KBLOOM
YOU GYPSIES ARE BETTER ARMED THAN MY RECONNAISSANCE SUGGESTED.
BEFORE I KILL YOU, I WANT THE [illegible] FUNDED THIS LITTLE COUP D'ETAT?
I TOLD YOU. WE STAND ONLY WITH DOOM. HE IS WHO HE SAYS, ZONE. THE CARDS--
DON'T GIVE ME THAT TAROT HOGWASH.
YOU NEVER SHOULD HAVE PLACED FAITH IN THE CARD TRICKS OF A GYPSY CON ARTIST.
NOW, I'LL CORRECT HIS MISTAKE.
KCIK
BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA
AGHHH
KCHOW
WHO--
YOU!?!
YOU'VE GOT SOME NERVE COMING BACK HERE.
NO TIME FOR THANKS, DARLING. WE MUST TO GET YOUR PEOPLE OUTA HERE BEFORE THE GUARDS-MEN CALL REINFORCEMENTS.


YOUR MOVEMENTS [illegible] SLUGGISH, DOOM!
ALL THE STOLEN PIXEL TECHNOLOGY IN THE [illegible] CANNOT PROTECT [illegible] FOREVER [illegible] MY DISRUPTORS' INTENSITY.
TELL [illegible] AGAIN OF THE OLD [illegible]-- OF THE [illegible] AND GLORY OF [illegible]--
--WHOSE SCHEMES [illegible] CONTINUALLY UNDONE BY ARMCHAIR INTELLECTUALS AND SIDEWALK [illegible].
YOU ONLY EVER MASTERED SELF OBSESSION, DOOM.
MOCK ME AS YOU WILL--
--BUT YOU TOO SUFFER AND SLOW FROM BATTLE WITH THIS ANACHRONISM!
PERHAPS HISTORY WILL BE KINDER TO YOU, THAN I WILL BE.
IT WAS NOT [illegible] YOU SENSED, BUT A DIVER[illegible] OF POWER--
KRUNCHAKK
--TO KNOCK OUT THE STRUCTURAL SUPPORTS OF THIS MOUNTAIN CHAMBER--
CAN'T SHIFT [illegible] AWAY-- CAN'T REROUTE WYLDE'S ASSAULT--
--SYSTEM DEFENSES OVERLOADING.

BULLPEN BULLETINS

MARK'S REMARKS

This is only the third time I've written for this space and already I'm resorting to name-calling. You see, part of my job as Senior Exec Ed is keeping track of the *names* of Marvel's multitude of characters (over 3000 names at most recent estimate) in order to prevent needless duplication and confusion. So ■ keeper of the master list, I get to tell our creative people if ■ given name is "taken" or not. There's sometimes a debate ■ to what constitutes "taken." F'instance, at the time the first female herald of Galactus was named, the kid called Nova was in retirement so the name was technically available. Wouldn't you know, it the original came back and of course was very interested in his name back. The lesson I learned from this is to never count retired characters as permanently abandoning their claims to their names.

Still, since I only began my name coordination back in '88, I inherited years of name duplication, and since that time, a few of our crafty creative folks have also managed to do end runs around the system in order to replicate names already in use.

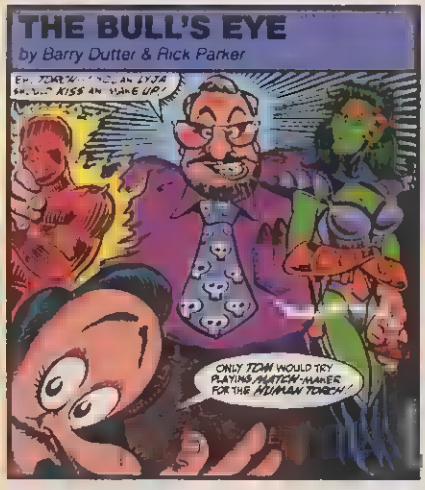
So what are some of the most popular names in the Marvel Universe, to judge by the number of different characters who have claimed the same name? Well, I combed the list and found 26 names used by three different characters (such ■ Ape-Man, Atom-Smasher, Blockbuster, Colossus, Goliath, Leviathan, Ox, Pestilence, Stinger, Warlock, and Whizzer), six names used by four different characters (Box, Executioner, Hate-Monger, Mr. Fear, Phoenix, and Smasher), five names used by five different characters (Black Knight, Destroyer, Red Guardian, Scourge, and Sleeper). Finally, there have been at least six or seven guys who wore the costume of Captain America for at least one whole issue.

Is the Marvel Universe fun or what?

Mark Gruenwald

We were passing through Niffleheim the other day, home of the legendary Frost Giants, where we saw Ymir, the most powerful frost giant of them all. Ymir remarked, "Is it cold here, or is it just me?"

Well, it is colder than the cold steel of the Punisher's AK-47 assault rifle out there, which gives you all the more reason to stay indoors and find new ways to entertain yourself. You could do blueprints of the headquarters of your favorite super-team, like ■ **R. Brown** does. Or you might want to take up painting. That's what **John Wellington**, ultra-cool PUNISHER ARMORY colorist, did. John was featured in a write-up recently in *American Artist* magazine, which bills itself as "the leading magazine for fine artists" (funny — we always thought that was SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN!). Several of John's modern masterpieces were featured in the mag, including a chilling self-portrait. John's paintings combine classic techniques with contemporary themes — much like your favorite Marvel Comics, which mix the legendary Stan Lee neo-realism of the sixties, with the post-modern cutting edge of the nineties.



X-MEN editor **Bob Harras** — whose hobby is attracting media attention — also received some magazine coverage recently. The magazine was *Entertainment Weekly*, where Bob was quizzed about the *X-Men* TV cartoon show, a possible *Wolverine* movie for '94, and just why the X-Men are so mega-popular. As Bob put it, "These stories have meaning!"

That they do (and the royalty checks aren't exactly lacking in meaning, either!), as you can see for yourself every Saturday morning on Fox. Fans of retro-classic Marvel animation of the sixties may also want to check out Ted Turner's all-new Cartoon Network, where reruns of the beloved *Fantastic Four* cartoons of the sixties are shown. (That channel also shows reruns of the *Thing* animated series from the early eighties, so we can all thrill to young Benjy Grimm joining his rings together and shouting, "Thing rings, do your thing!")

One thing that never changes is **Hildy Mesnick**'s assistant editor, "Professor" **James Felder**, pestering us to mention his off-duty activities on this page. In November of last year, the proud-piping Professor participated in the annual bagpipe festival held here in Greenwich Village. It was sponsored by Dewar's, and it was held over the course of two nights in October at an ultra-hip club called the Knitting Factory. After those two nights, they might want to be knitting themselves up some earplugs!

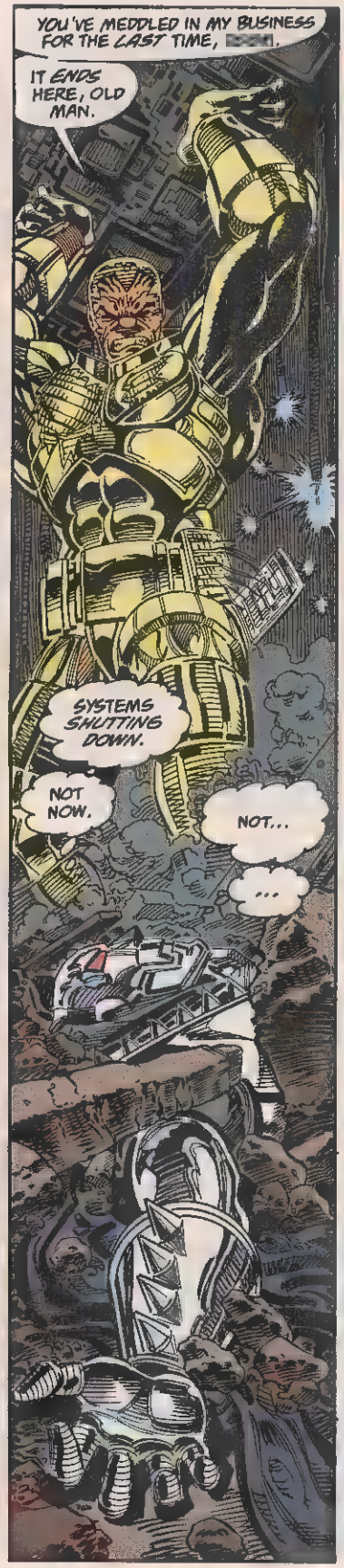
Nobody covers their ears when Marvel's book designer, **Joe Kaufman**, is playing! Joe is a member of ■ band called Shambas, which can rock the house harder than ■ Thor/Ulik slug-fest. Shambas plays various clubs around New York, including Street Level, Atlantis, and the Bank. (And no, Professor, they're not looking for a bagpiper!)

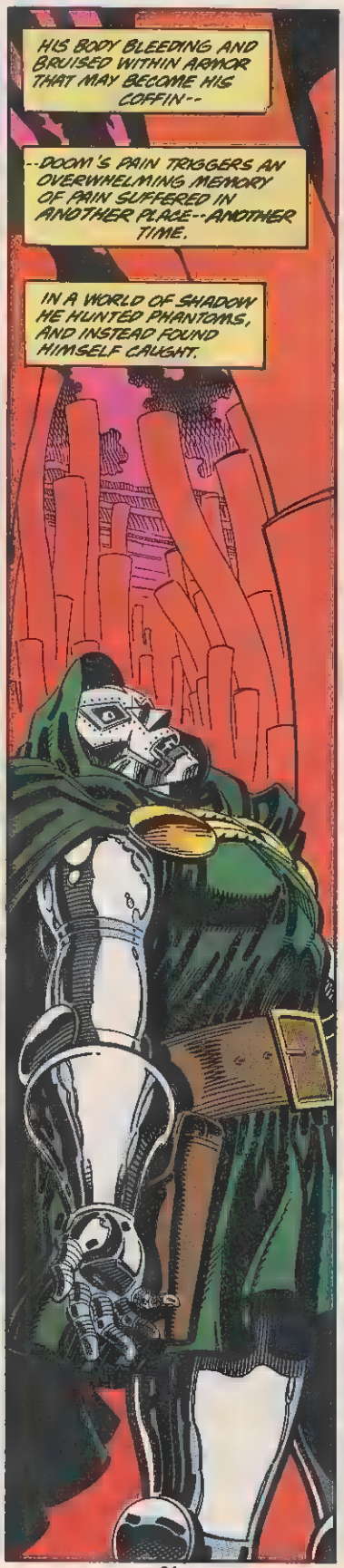
To end this column on yet another musical note, we'd like to toot the horn of our very own managing art director, **Steve Geiger**, who is a member of the rock group, Denaro! Denaro's self-titled debut CD is out in stores now, and it will rock you like one of Storm's hurricanes! The band will be doing a lot of touring in the next few months, so keep your ears open. If the band takes off, Steve & Co. will be making a lot of *dinero*, and winning more awards than Robert DeNiro!

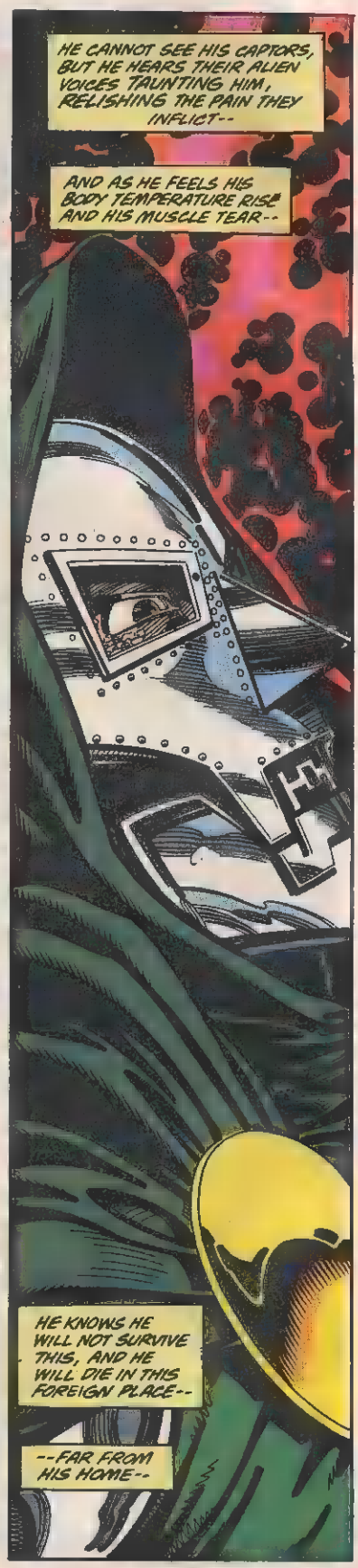
This brings us to the end of another award-winning Bullpen Page. As you can see, our mighty Marveloids tend to be multi-talented, just like writer/actor/country-western singer Sylvester Stallone. So to anyone out there who has an interest in pursuing any creative endeavor, like our stainless staffers, we encourage you wholeheartedly. Just don't let it take away time from your comic book reading!

HYPELINE: ON SALE THIS WEEK

- ☐ **AVENGERS #361:** The alternate **Vision** continues his Vision-quest!
- ☐ **CONAN #267:** Conan's imprisoned in the dark with a deadly changeling!
- ☐ **DARK ANGEL #10:** The Mys-Tech Board has a list, with the **X-Men** and Dark Angel at the top of ■
- ☐ **DOCTOR WHO #196:** The Doctor is in trouble!
- ☐ **DOOM 2099 #4:** The **Tiger Wylde** saga concludes, and it's really wild!
- ☐ **EXCALIBUR #64:** Has Rachel become **Dark Phoenix**?
- ☐ **G.I. JOE #135:** Poly-bagged with a photo trading card! It's a G.I. Joe you've never seen before!
- ☐ **G.I. JOE AND THE TRANSFORMERS:** Reprinting the classic battle of the action figures!
- ☐ **[redacted]LE HULK #404:** In this corner, the Avengers and the Hulk! In that corner, the Red Skull and the Juggernaut! Place your bets!
- ☐ **MARVEL AGE #123:** Two covers: Spidey/**Venom** and **Thunderstrike**! Nobody covers Marvel like MARVEL AGE!
- ☐ **MARVEL COMICS #126: Wolverine! She-Hulk! Iron Fist! Ghost Rider!** And Jerry Mathers as the Beaver!
- ☐ **MIDNIGHT SONS UNLIMITED ■1:** 64 pages of **Morbius, Ghost Rider,** and the Midnight Sons Family Singers!!
- ☐ **MORBIUS #8:** Morbius has drunken spoiled blood! He should've checked the expiration date!
- ☐ **PUNISHER #77:** Micro is kidnapped! Punny must save his little buddy!
- ☐ **SHIELD #46:** An **X-Force** tie-in? What is this book, close to cancellation, or what?
- ☐ **SILVER SURFER/WARLOCK: RESURRECTION #2 of 4:** This one is so cosmic, you'll be seeing stars!
- ☐ **SPIDER-MAN #33:** Is Spidey a murderer? Ask the **Punisher**! (Like he should talk!)
- ☐ **SUPER SOLDIERS #1:** Mortally wounded soldiers come back — and the **USAgent** isn't happy about it!
- ☐ **WARLOCK ■ THE INFINITY WATCH #15:** Let sleeping Warlocks lie!
- ☐ **WHAT IF #48:** The answer to the most-asked question of all: What if **Daredevil** had saved **Nuke**?
- ☐ **X-FACTOR #89:** The truth about **Rahne** comes pouring down!
- ☐ **X-MEN #19:** Introducing an all-new villain, **Soul Skinner** (No relation to B.F. Skinner, the famed anthropologist!)


YOU'VE MEDDLED IN MY BUSINESS FOR THE LAST TIME, [redacted].
IT ENDS HERE, OLD MAN.
SYSTEMS SHUTTING DOWN.
NOT NOW.
NOT...
...

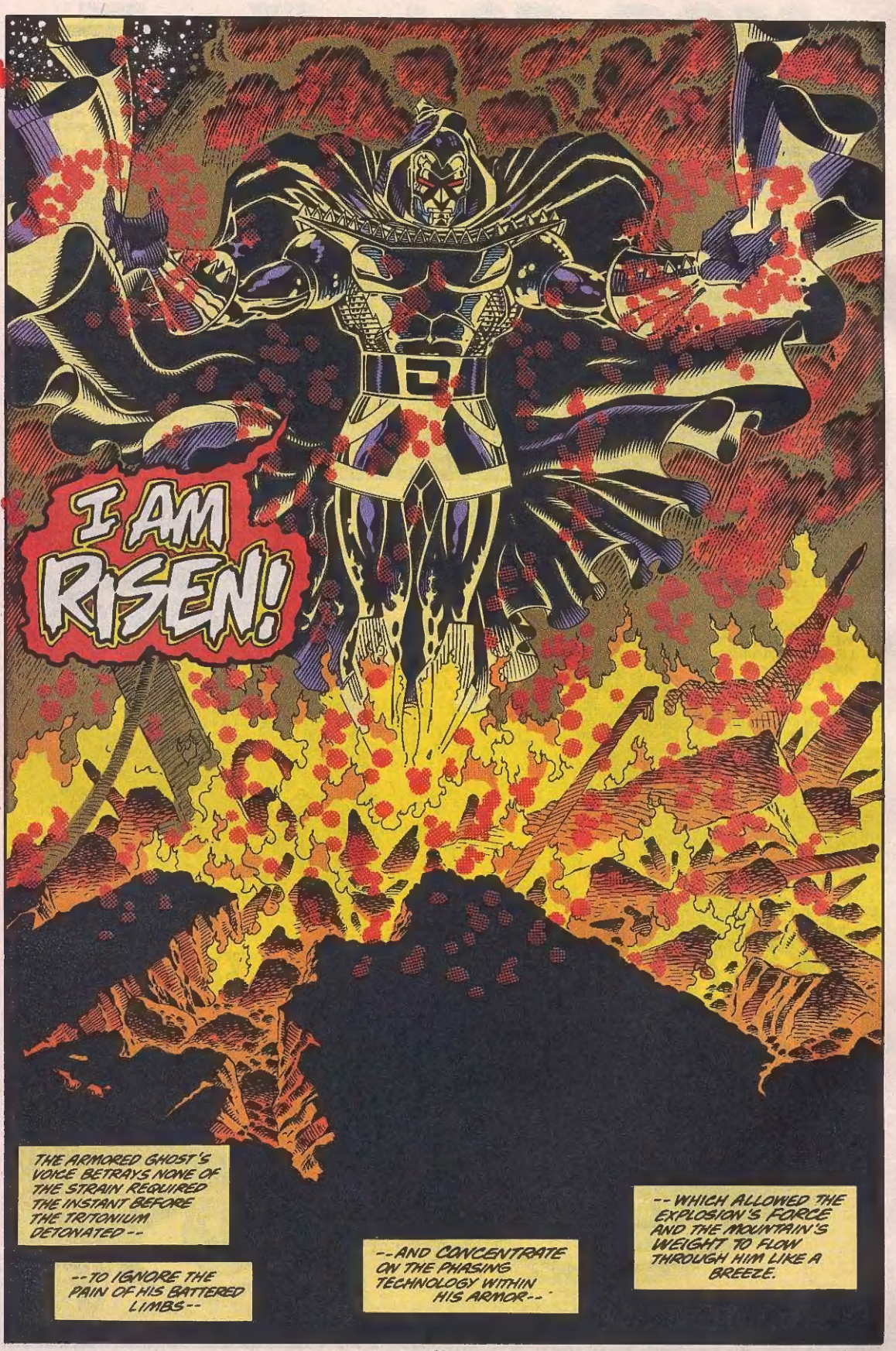

HIS BODY BLEEDING AND BRUISED WITHIN ARMOR THAT MAY BECOME HIS COFFIN--
--DOOM'S PAIN TRIGGERS AN OVERWHELMING MEMORY OF PAIN SUFFERED IN ANOTHER PLACE--ANOTHER TIME.
IN A WORLD OF SHADOW HE HUNTED PHANTOMS, AND INSTEAD FOUND HIMSELF CAUGHT.


HE CANNOT SEE HIS CAPTORS, BUT HE HEARS THEIR ALIEN VOICES TAUNTING HIM, RELISHING THE PAIN THEY INFLICT--
AND AS HE FEELS HIS BODY TEMPERATURE RISE AND HIS MUSCLE TEAR--
HE KNOWS HE WILL NOT SURVIVE THIS, AND HE WILL DIE IN THIS FOREIGN PLACE--
--FAR FROM HIS HOME--

-- FAR FROM LATVERIA.
DIE!
THUNBTT
CHANKGG!
I THANK YOU, DOOM.
YOU HAVE [redacted] OUT OF MY ADMINISTRATIVE [redacted]
ONCE I CRIPPLE ALCHEMAX'S ENERGY CONCERNS WITH THE TRITONIUM--
--I WILL REPAY DEVARGAS FOR BETRAYING ME.
THEN WITH CONTROLLING INTEREST OF BOTH PIXEL AND ALCHEMAX--
WHYYCHKWYYYCHK
--I WILL [redacted] WORLD WIDE [redacted] ACQUISITION.
TOO [redacted] YOU WON'T BE AROUND TO WATCH ME REDEFINE HOSTILE TAKEOVER.
WHAT? THE TRITONIUM DETONATOR [redacted] BEEN ACTIVATED!
IT IS A GOOD DAY TO DIE.

DOOM!
YES...YOU DESTROYED BUT ONE OF MY ARMOR SYSTEMS--
--FAIL-SAFES INITIALIZED BACK-UP SYSTEMS SOON AFTER THE FIRST CRASHED--
--EVEN NOW, THE NANOTECH IN MY BODY IS REPAIRING MY BROKEN BONES, STANCHING THE BLEEDING--
I DO NOT DIE EASILY.
00:00:06
THEN YOU'VE SIGNED YOUR DEATH WARRANT AS WELL AS MINE.
THE TRITONIUM WILL EXPLODE IN SECONDS.
AS I PLANNED FROM THE BEGINNING.
LET THIS MOUNTAIN BURY US BOTH.
00:00:03
GO TO H--
00:00:01
00:00:00
BLAMMFFFF
HIS CASTLE DESTROYED IN HIS ABSENCE, PARTS OF HIS MEMORY LOST UPON HIS RETURN--
--THE MAN CALLING HIMSELF DOOM FOUND LITTLE LEGACY OF HIS PAST IN THIS WORLD OF THE FUTURE.
ALL THAT REMAINED WAS A MOUNTAINSIDE HANGAR BUILT AS A SAFE HAVEN.
AS THE MOUNTAIN EXPLODES WITH TITANIC FORCE, THE REMAINS OF THE DOOM'S 20TH CENTURY LIFE ATOMIZE INTO DUST.

GROUND'S STILL SHAKING. YOU SOLID, WIRE?
GOT A RINGING IN MY EARS BUT OTHERWISE, ON LINE AND OPERATING.
THINK DOOM GOT OUT?
WITH HALF A MOUNTAIN COLLAPSED ON HIM? NOT LIKELY.
IT'S NOT OVER YET. ONCE NEWS OF WYLDE'S DEATH HITS THE INFONETS--
--EVERY CORPORATE RAIDER WITHIN SPITTING DISTANCE WILL BE ROCKETING HERE TO CLAIM THAT TRITONIUM.
AS MUCH AS I HATE TO ADMIT YOU'RE RIGHT, POET OR WHATEVER YOU CALL YOURSELF THESE DAYS--
--WITHOUT DOOM, WE DON'T HAVE MUCH LEVERAGE AGAINST ANY MEGACORP WITH ITS SIGHTS ON LAT--
CHHHCKRRROOOWWWM!!
I DON'T BELIEVE IT...


I AM RISEN!
THE ARMORED GHOST'S VOICE BETRAYS NONE OF THE STRAIN REQUIRED THE INSTANT BEFORE THE TRITONIUM DETONATED--
--TO IGNORE THE PAIN OF HIS BATTERED LIMBS--
--AND CONCENTRATE ON THE PHASING TECHNOLOGY WITHIN HIS ARMOR--
--WHICH ALLOWED THE EXPLOSION'S FORCE AND THE MOUNTAIN'S WEIGHT TO FLOW THROUGH HIM LIKE A BREEZE.

GOJRADIA. THREE DAYS LATER.
HALF THE TRITONIUM WILL SUPPLY LATVERIA'S POWER THROUGH THE NEXT CENTURY.
THE OTHER HALF I SHALL KEEP FOR MY OWN PURPOSES.
I'M JUST THANKFUL YOU DIDN'T DESTROY THE ENTIRE MALHELA MOUNTAIN RANGE IN THAT SUICIDE GAMBIT.
MY RISK WAS JUSTIFIED. LATVERIA IS FREE OF TIGER WYLDE.
NOW WE HAVE THE REST OF THE WORLD TO WORRY ABOUT.
IF OUR COUNTRY IS TO STAND AGAINST THE CHAOTIC AND DESTRUCTIVE FORCES THAT SURROUND IT--
--WE MUST CHANGE THE WORLD WITHOUT AS WELL...
FORGIVE ME IF I DON'T SHARE YOUR DESIRE FOR WORLD DOMINATION.
LATVERIA ALONE WILL BE ENOUGH CHALLENGE.
YOU MISINTERPRET MY WORDS. CONQUEST DOES NOT INTEREST ME.
I HAVE RETURNED TO A WORLD TEETERING ON THE BRINK OF DESTRUCTION--
--A HOUSE OF CARDS DESTINED TO COLLAPSE UNDER THE WEIGHT OF POLITICAL AND CORPORATE FACTIONALISM.
IF THAT ANARCHIC TOMORROW IS TO BE AVOIDED, THIS WORLD MUST BE REBUILT AND RESTRUCTURED.
AND I AM THE ARCHITECT OF THAT FUTURE.

"Fire answers fire, and through their paly flames each battle sees the other's umbered face."

— Shakespeare, *Henry V*